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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/619,778	07/20/2000	Yang Cao	Cao-4	3605

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TROUTMAN, SANDERS, MAY & VALENTINE
attn: JOHN CURTIN, ESQ.
1660 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE
SUITE 600
MCLEAN, VA 22102

EXAMINER

PEZZLO, JOHN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2662

DATE MAILED: 02/12/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/619,778

Applicant(s)
Cao

Examiner
John Pezzlo

Art Unit
2662



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 7-9, 12-14, 18-23, and 25-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6, 10, 11, 15-17, 24, and 29 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

Claim Objections

Claim 29 is objected to because of the following informalities: Line 1, "configured compare" needs to be corrected ("configured to compare"). Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

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The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

I. Claims 1, 2, 12, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hluchyj (US 6,381,238 B1).

1. Regarding claims 1 and 12 - Hluchyj discloses a circuit switched switch fabric, refer to Figure 2 callout 26.

Hluchyj discloses a packet switched switch fabric, refer to Figure 2 callout 23.

Hluchyj discloses a controller (refer to Figure 2 callout 21) configured to separate telecommunications traffic received at the hybrid switch, including ATM traffic (refer to column 1 lines 11 to 33) characterized by at least one service category, and to direct traffic to either a circuit or packet switch fabric, the controller directing ATM traffic of at least one service category to a circuit switched switch fabric, refer to Figure 2 and column 1 lines 28 to 67 and column 2 lines 1 to 11. (The examiner points out that all ATM traffic is at least one service category, either CBR, rt or nrt-VBR, ABR, or UBR.)

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2. Regarding claims 2 and 13 - Hluchyj discloses that a portion of the circuit switch resources are provisioned for STM traffic and the remaining portion of the circuit switch resources are allocated to ATM traffic as the controller routes the ATM traffic to the circuit switch, refer to Figures 1 and 2 and columns 1 and 2.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

II. Claims 3, 7, 8, 14, 18, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hluchyj (same as above) in view of Park et al. (US 6,646,985 B1) hereinafter Park.

1. Regarding claims 3, 7, 8, 14, 18, and 19 - Hluchyj discloses a hybrid switch but does not expressly disclose an admission control algorithm (claims 3 and 14) or a resource table (claims 7 and 18), or separate ingress and egress resource tables (claims 8 and 19).

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Park discloses Generic Flow Control (GFC) call admission control which is an admission control algorithm and resource tables for ingress and egress in the forwarding engine (FE) refer to the abstract and Figure 2 callout 48 and columns 5-8.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the hybrid switch of Hluchyj with the admission control algorithm and resource tables of Park. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Hluchyj discloses call establishment and providing an admission control algorithm and resource tables will allow the hybrid switch to allocate the bandwidth (resources) optimally and maintain the call connections using the tables.

III. Claims 9, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hluchyj (same as above) in view of Park (same as above) further in view of Ash et al. (US 6,151,315) hereinafter Ash.

1. Regarding claims 9, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, and 28 - Hluchyj discloses a hybrid switch and call establishment and Park discloses an admission control algorithm and resource tables but neither of the above expressly disclose that all the nodes along the proposed path have accepted an ATM traffic request (claims 9, 20, 21, 25, and 26) and establishing an ATM traffic path after the resources have been allocated (claims 22, 23, 27, and 28).

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Ash discloses that for connection oriented traffic (ATM and circuit switch traffic) a set-up phase occurs before the data is communicated over the channel and during the set-up phase each switch or node in the channel path allocates resources to the connection and then the connection is set-up, refer to abstract and Figures 1 and 2 and columns 2-4.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the hybrid switch with the admission control algorithm and the resource tables with the connection set-up phase in order to properly allocate resources to the ATM traffic (CBR and rt-VBR) over the circuit switched and packet switched domains. The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been that Hluchyj discloses call establishment and Park discloses admission control and resource tables and providing a set-up procedure would insure that all the nodes and switches along the path have the resources to support the CBR and rt-VBR ATM traffic.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4-6, 10, 11, 15-17, 24, and 29 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

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The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

1. Bharucha et al. (US 6,522,663 B1) discloses a telecommunications network architecture for transporting FAX, voice, and data via an ATM switch including a STM to ATM TA.
2. Medhat et al. (US 6,314,103 B1) discloses a system and method for allocating bandwidth for a call.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Pezzlo whose telephone number is (703) 306-5420. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hassan Kizou, can be reached on (703) 305-4744. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C.

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306

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For informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"

Hand delivered responses should be brought to:

Receptionist (Sixth floor)

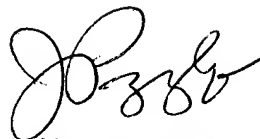
Crystal Park 2

2121 Crystal Drive

Arlington, VA.

John Pezzlo

7 February 2004



JOHN PEZZLO
PRIMARY EXAMINER